

STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT • 2ND DISTRICT

Scott Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7748 • Fax: 517-373-1387
E-mail: senmscott@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/scott



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CONTACT: Sen. Martha G. Scott
PHONE: 517-373-7748

Scott Holds Town Hall Meeting on Coping with Winter Heating Costs

LANSING—With high home heating costs straining most family budgets, Sen. Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) this evening held a town hall meeting focused on providing homeowners with better ways to cope with escalating home heating expenses. The meeting was held at Conner Creek Village in Detroit.

“People shouldn’t need to choose between feeding their family and heating their home,” said Scott. “I want to make sure families know what steps they can take to keep home heating affordable and also understand their rights as a consumer.”

Following projections by the Michigan Public Service Commission that natural gas heating costs would sky-rocket this winter, Senate and House Democrats established Project WARM or Winter Assistance and Relief in Michigan. The package of bills, awaiting action in the Republican-controlled legislature, attacks the home-heating problem with an assortment of weapons. Highlights of the plan include a ban on winter shut-offs, an emergency fund to pay exorbitant and unexpected bills, strengthening heating assistance programs, and incentives for home weatherization.

“Unchecked, home heating costs could have disastrous affects on Michigan families, this year more than ever,” said Scott. “Legislation introduced by Senate Democrats will give consumers the tools they need to manage family budgets without the fear of going without heat during a harsh Michigan winter.”

Senator Scott also discussed already-existing federal and state cost-mitigation programs and gave out information with suggestions on managing natural gas consumption.

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Senator Scott represents the 2nd Senate District, which includes areas of Detroit and the cities of Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park and all of the Grosse Pointes. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.